

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JUSTIFICATION FOR RENEWAL**

1. Accomplishments under Extant Charter. As of the end of March 2017, the Information Systems Technical Advisory Committee (ISTAC) will have met eight times (April 29-30, 2015; July 29-30, 2015; October 28-29, 2015; January 27-28, 2016; April 27-28, 2016; July 27-28, 2016; October 19-20, 2016; and January 25-26, 2017).

The ISTAC responded to several requests by the Department of Commerce for its position on proposed regulations policy and export control changes. The ISTAC monitored the capability of the information systems industry on a world-wide basis and developments in the industry as they had an impact on the effectiveness of export controls.

The ISTAC, composed of members selected for their individual expertise regarding the technical parameters for export controls as well as their expertise regarding the administration of those controls, is a unique source for up-to-date technical guidance on the marketplace for high-tech goods.

The estimated annual operating cost of the ISTAC is \$34,545.

2. Need for Renewal. U.S. export control policy related to information systems continues to require ongoing review as a result of global changes in technology and markets. Developments in the information system industry create a continuing need for discussion of the appropriate export control parameters for technology and commodities within the information systems industry to be held within a single advisory body. With the current organization of the Commerce Control List, a single forum is needed for addressing export control issues for all commodities and technology relating to information systems.

The work of the ISTAC is essential to the conduct of Department business and is in the public interest.

3. Balanced Membership. The membership is required by law to be composed of a diverse representation of industry and government with specific technical or export control expertise. The principal sources for members from industry are large and small firms located throughout the country that produce information systems, and related software and technology subject to export controls.

The prime criterion for membership is the technical expertise of the individual.

4. Other Factors. The functions of the ISTAC cannot be performed by the Department or any existing committee, as only qualified individuals currently working in the industry can keep abreast of developments affecting export controls on information systems. Further, a private sector perspective regarding the formulation and implementation of export control policies, laws,

and regulations is necessary. The technical advice provided by the ISTAC will be needed as long as there are export controls on the items under its technical purview. This advisory role means the ISTAC's function is ongoing.